UCLA Faculty Association

News and opinion from Dan Mitchell since 2009

Sunday, September 7, 2025

New Sub-Campaign for Science Within Stand Up for UC

Excerpt from an email sent to UC retiree centers and probably other groups such as alumni:

August 28, 2025

UC's Speak Up for Science campaign

Colleagues and friends,

In the face of multiple federal threats facing the University of California right now, UC Office of the President has launched the Stand Up for UC campaign:

https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/get-involved/stand-up-for-uc

which encourages people to pledge their support for UC and publicly share their stories:

https://universityofcalifornia.quorum.us/campaign/shareyourucstory/

about how UC has positively affected their lives.

We greatly appreciate your help in elevating this time-sensitive effort. We will continue to evaluate where things are and will be in touch if the situation changes.

A secondary campaign that is nested under the Stand Up for UC umbrella, Speak Up for Science:

https://www.universityofcalifornia.edu/get-involved/speak-up-for-science

focuses on rebuilding federal support for U.S. research and innovation and sustaining long-term investments in the federal science agencies that fund more than half of all UC research. Like Stand Up for UC, this is an ongoing campaign.

The Speak Up for Science campaign will kick into high gear at the beginning of September when Congress is focused on federal fiscal year (FY) 2026 funding decisions. Congress is considering a budget request that would slash funding for the federal science agencies by as much as 50% in the coming year — an amount that would devastate UC's research enterprise...

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:30 AM No comments:

Labels: UC, uc retirement, UCOP

Straws in the Wind - Part 94

From Inside Higher Ed: *A law firm representing anti–wind energy groups is demanding that Brown University researchers retract findings linking those groups to the fossil fuel industry... The move comes weeks after Brown reached an agreement with the Trump administration. The government restored $510 million in frozen federal research grants after the university agreed to certain demands, including adopting the Trump administration's definitions of male and female and turning over admissions data...*

Marzulla Law LLC characterized the research published by Brown's Climate and Development Lab as "false and injurious" in a... letter to Brown's general counsel. It threatened to file complaints with Brown's public and private funders, including the Energy Department, the National Science Foundation and the Mellon Foundation... Brown researchers who authored a case study about Marzulla Law have written that the firm has "a history of advancing anti-environmental lawsuits and significant ties with the fossil fuel industry." Researchers have also published findings accusing one of the firm's clients—the nonprofit Green Oceans, which is trying to shut down the construction of a nearly complete $4 billion wind farm off the coast of Rhode Island—of being part of "a fossil-fuel-funded disinformation network." ...

The Council of UC Faculty Associations

- Faculty are fighting back
- Faculty Lawsuit Demands Public Access to Trump Administration's Settlement Demands on University of California
- Coalition of UC unions condemns Trump's attacks on the UC and the California economy
- Stand up for values in the face of Trump's $300 million cut to UCLA scholars
- Faculty leaders comment on UCB Chancellor Lyon's appearance before House Committee on Education and the Workforce

Remaking the University

- Liner Note 39. Attack Theory for Education - 9/28/2025
- Liner Note 38. The University of California's Charlie Kirk Tribute Act - 9/16/2025
- Why Should We "Stand Up for the UC?" (Guest Post) - 9/1/2025

Higher Ed. News & Commentary

- Chronicle of Higher Education
- Inside Higher Education
- Remaking the University
- Changing Universities
- California Professor

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- Council of UC Faculty Associations

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- American Association of University Professors
- California Faculty Association (NEA)
- UC-AFT

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Full story at https://www.insidehighered.com/news/quick-takes/2025/08/26/law-firm-threatens-brown-climate-researchers.

From Inside Higher Ed: *Virginia Democrats blocked 14 gubernatorial appointments to state university boards last week, escalating a fight with Republican governor Glenn Youngkin over institutional leadership. The Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections, led by a Democratic majority, voted 8 to 6 to reject four Youngkin appointments to the Virginia Military Institute board, four to the University of Virginia's board and six to George Mason University's board. The latter rejections now leave the GMU Board of Visitors without a quorum at a time when they are under federal scrutiny for alleged discriminatory hiring practices, which GMU president Gregory Washington has sharply disputed, even as concerns over his future hang in the balance.*

Youngkin called the move "blatant partisanship." But Senate Democrats have argued that the governor participated in his own brand of partisanship, stocking college boards with divisive conservative political figures. (An Inside Higher Ed analysis in July found that Youngkin has appointed numerous conservative activists, former Republican lawmakers and officials, and multiple GOP megadonors, among others.) Commonwealth Democrats have also demanded that Youngkin cease such appointments until he meets with Senate leaders, who have accused the governor of failing to adequately consult with them. The Senate Committee on Privileges and Elections previously blocked eight appointments in June. That action prompted a legal fight, with the governor arguing that his picks should be allowed to serve on their respective boards until the full Senate weighs in.

Attorney General Jason Miyares, a Republican, backed the governor's view, but a judge blocked that effort in July after Democrats sued. Miyares has since appealed the case to the Virginia Supreme Court...

Full story at https://www.insidehighered.com/news/governance/trustees-regents/2025/09/03/virginia-democrats-block-14-board-appointments.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:20 AM No comments:

Labels: Brown University, George Mason U, politics, U of Virginia, Virginia Military Institute

Upcoming Regents Meetings: Sept. 16-17, 2025

The Regents are meeting in an unusually compressed set of sessions on Sept. 16-17 at UC-San Francisco. Usually, they meet for two full days - typically Wednesday-Thursday - often with an added abbreviated session for one or two committees the day before (Tuesday). This time, however, they have an abbreviated session on Tuesday and have crammed everything else in on Wednesday. They will discuss the current conflict with the feds behind closed doors. But there doesn't seem much else that would be controversial with one exception - other than what might be said in public comments - for the open agenda.

The one exception is modification of certain rules that potentially involve discipline of faculty and Academic Senate procedures, an issue that has come up in several prior Regents meetings.

It may be that the Regents are in a holding pattern, awaiting some developments in the conflict with the feds. As blog readers will know, they have formed a special committee of ten Regents to deal with the situation. The special committee has met several times in closed session in recent weeks.

Agenda: September 16-17, 2025, Tuesday-Wednesday (no Thursday meeting), UCSF–Mission Bay Conference Center

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Tuesday, September 16, 2025

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3:00 pm **Health Services Committee** (open session)

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of July 15, 2025

Public Comment Period (30 minutes)

H1 Discussion: Comments of the Executive Vice President for UC Health

--

Upon end of open session: **Health Services Committee** (closed session)

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of July 15, 2025

H2(X) Action: Consent Item: Acquisition of Membership in a Long-Term General Acute Care Hospital, Los Angeles Campus

H3(X) Discussion: UC Health Litigation Update

===

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Contributors

- California Policy Issues
- Toby Higbie
- UCLA Faculty Association

Wednesday, September 17, 2025

8:30 am **Board** (open session - includes public comment session)

Public Comment Period (30 minutes)

Approval of the Minutes of the Meetings of May 14, July 16, and July 17, 2025

Remarks of the Chair of the Board

Remarks of the President of the University

Remarks of the Chair of the Academic Senate

B1 Discussion: UC Inspires: Student-Run Charities—UC's Commitment to Academic Excellence and Service to Others

Remarks from Student Associations

--

10:15 am **Board** (closed session)

B2(X) Discussion: External Funding Litigation and Legal Issues

--

Noon: **Finance and Capital Strategies Committee** (open session)

Agenda – Open Session

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of July 16, 2025

Consent Agenda:

F1A Action: Consent Item: Center for Health Sciences Emergency Power Upgrade, Los Angeles Campus: Budget Amendment and External Financing

F1B Action: Consent Item: 2025 Long Range Development Plan, Lawrence Berkeley National Laboratory: Approval Following Certification of an Environmental Impact Report Pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act

F2 Discussion: Preliminary Discussion: of the University's 2026-27 Operating Budget

--

Upon end of open session: **Finance and Capital Strategies Committee** (closed session)

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of July 16, 2025

F3(X) Action: Member Substitution in Arts Organization, Irvine Campus: Acquisition, Project Budget, External Financing, and Business Terms

--

12:45 pm **Academic and Student Affairs Committee** (open session)

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of July 16, 2025

A1 Discussion: Degree Plus: Enriching Career Preparation for UC Students

A2 Discussion: The University of California's Engagement with K-12 in the Inland Empire and the San Joaquin Valley

--

1:30 pm **Board** (open session)

B3 Discussion: UC Strategic AI Overview

--

2:15 pm **Compliance and Audit Committee** (open session)

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of July 16, 2025

C1 Action: Consent Item: University of California Compliance with State Assembly Bill 481

NOTE: Assembly Bill 481 requires all California law enforcement to declare any Military Equipment.

C2 Action: Appointment of Regents' External Auditor

--

Upon end of open session: **Compliance and Audit Committee** (closed session)

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of July 16, 2025

C3(X) Discussion: Update on Royalty Audit Program

C4(X) Action: Recommended Settlements for Board Action

C5(X) Discussion: Appellate, Trial Court Developments and Updates

NOTE: Included here are various medical malpractice lawsuits including the Heaps case from UCLA, a variety of legal challenges to UC practices in the wake of the Supreme Court's anti-affirmative Action: decision, cases stemming from the protests, and the Klein vs. Regents trial from UCLA which should conclude in September.

C6(X) Information: Settlements and Separation Agreements under Delegated Authority Reported from June 1, 2025 to July 31, 2025

--

3:30 pm **Special Committee on Nominations** (closed session)

S1(X) Action: Appointment of Chancellors to Standing Committees

--

3:35 pm **Governance Committee** (closed session)

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of July 16, 2025

G1(X) Discussion: Incentive Compensation for Fiscal Year 2024-25 for Chief Investment Officer and Senior Vice President – Investments, Office of the President

G2(X) Discussion: Collective Bargaining Matters

--

4:15 pm **Board** (closed session)

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meetings of May 14-15 and July 16-17, 2025

Committee Reports Including Approval of Recommendations from Committees:

-Compliance and Audit Committee

-Finance and Capital Strategies Committee

-Governance Committee

-Health Services Committee

Officers' and President's Reports:

-Personnel Matters

-Report of Interim, Concurrence, and Committee Actions

-Report of Materials Mailed Between Meetings

--

4:30 pm **Governance Committee** (open session)

Action: Approval of the Minutes of the Meeting of July 16, 2025

G1 Action: Approval of Incentive Compensation for Fiscal Year 2024-25 for Chief Investment Officer and Senior Vice President – Investments, Office of the President as Discussed in Closed Session

--

4:45 p.m. **Board** (open session)

Committee Reports Including Approvals of Recommendations from Committees:

-Academic and Student Affairs Committee

-Compliance and Audit Committee

-Finance and Capital Strategies Committee

-Governance Committee

-Health Services Committee

-Special Committee on Nominations

Unfinished Business: Amendments of Bylaw 40.3* – Special Provisions Concerning Faculty; Standing Order 105.1 – Organization of the Academic Senate; and Standing Order 105.2** – Duties, Powers, and Privileges of the Academic Senate

Officers' and President's Reports:

-Report of Interim, Concurrence, and Committee Actions

-Report of Materials Mailed Between Meetings

Source: https://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/meetings/agendas/sept25.html.

====

***The current version of Bylaw 40.3 is below:**

40.3 Special Provisions Concerning Faculty.

(a) No Political Test

No political test shall ever be considered in the appointment and promotion of any faculty member or employee.

(b) Privilege of a Hearing Before the Academic Senate

Any member of the Academic Senate shall have the privilege of a hearing by the appropriate committee or committees of the Academic Senate on any matter relating to personal,

departmental, or University welfare.

(c) Tenure

All appointments to the positions of Professor and Associate Professor and to positions of equivalent rank are continuous in tenure until terminated by retirement, demotion, or dismissal. The termination of a continuous tenure appointment or the termination of the appointment of any other member of the faculty before the expiration of the appointee's contract shall be only for good cause, after the opportunity for a hearing before the properly constituted advisory committee of the Academic Senate, except as otherwise provided in a Memorandum of Understanding for faculty who are not members of the Academic Senate.

An Assistant Professor who has completed eight years of service in that title, or in that title in combination with other titles as established by the President, shall not be continued after the eighth year unless promoted to Associate Professor or Professor. By exception, the President may approve appointment of an Assistant Professor beyond the eighth year for no more than two years.

(d) Security of Employment

A Lecturer-Potential Security of Employment appointed at more than half time who has completed eight years of service in that title, or in that title in combination with other titles as established by the President, shall not be continued in that title after the eighth year unless given appointment with security of employment.

By exception, the President may approve appointment of a Lecturer-Potential Security of Employment on more than half time beyond the eighth year without security of employment, but may not extend it beyond two years.

(e) Dismissal

Dismissal of an academic appointee who holds tenure or security of employment shall be only for good cause and shall be voted by the Board upon recommendation of the President of the University, following consultation with the appropriate Chancellor. Prior to recommending dismissal, the Chancellor shall consult with the appropriate advisory committee(s) of the Division of the Academic Senate.

Source: https://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/governance/bylaws/bl40.html.

====

****Standing Order 105.2 currently reads as follows:**

105.2: Duties, Powers, and Privileges of the Academic Senate

a. Rescinded

b. Rescinded

c. The Academic Senate shall determine the membership of the several faculties and councils, subject to the provisions of Standing Order 105.1(c), except the faculties of Hastings College of the Law, and San Francisco Art Institute, provided that the several departments of the University, with the approval of the President, shall determine their own form of administrative organization, and all Professors, Associate Professors, Acting Professors, Acting Associate Professors, and Assistant Professors, and all Instructors of at least two years' service shall have the right to vote in department meetings.

NOTE: Standing Order 105.1(c) is a list of all positions that comprise the Academic Senate.

d. Rescinded

e. Rescinded

f. The Academic Senate is authorized to advise the President and the Chancellors concerning the administration of the libraries of the University.

g. The Academic Senate is authorized to select a committee or committees to approve the publication of manuscripts by the University of California Press.

Source: https://regents.universityofcalifornia.edu/governance/standing-orders/so1052.html.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:10 AM No comments:

Labels: health care, politics, UC Regents

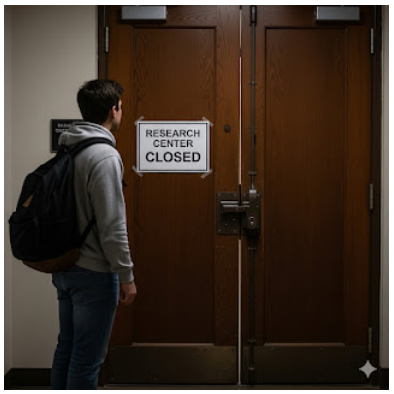
Saturday, September 6, 2025

Fallout

From the Bruin: *Federal funding cuts and tight budgets will lead to fewer opportunities for undergraduates looking to do research in UCLA labs. Around $584 million in federal research funding – totaling about 800 grants – was suspended from UCLA on July 30 and July 31. While a federal judge ruled that the grants from the National Science Foundation must be reinstated by Aug. 19, the grants from the National Institutes of Health and the Department of Energy remain suspended.*

In an email sent to students in some physical science departments, Britney Robinson, the special advisor on community and belonging for the Division of Physical Sciences, said research opportunities for undergraduate students will be severely limited as a direct result of the loss of federal funding. "This will drastically limit capacity for research labs to undertake undergraduates in their labs due to cuts in funding," Robinson said in the email. "This may also cause (and has already caused) some programs and centers to close and may cause some staff to be laid off." ...

Full story at https://dailybruin.com/2025/09/01/federal-funding-cuts-drastically-limit-undergraduate-research-opportunities.



Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:30 AM No comments:

Labels: UCLA

Straws in the Wind - Part 93

From the Washington Post: *Facing mounting pressure from the Trump administration, a lawyer for George Mason University President Gregory Washington told the board on Monday the leader had done nothing unlawful and would not apologize for his diversity, equity and inclusion policies, despite a call from the Education Department to do so. The federal agency's Office of Civil Rights made a personal apology from Washington to the campus community part of a series of proposed steps to resolve a recent finding that the Virginia university had violated civil rights law by considering race in hiring and promotions. Washington has said the university's policies complied with the law and were meant to expand opportunities.*

Douglas Gansler, Washington's lawyer, called the singling out of GMU from the Education Department bordering on the "absurd," saying in his letter to the George Mason Board of Visitors that the department's investigative process had been "cut short" after a "very incomplete fact-finding process,"

"The draft Resolution Agreement, in particular its demand that Dr. Washington apologize to the Mason community for promoting unlawful discriminatory hiring practices, would be falsely admitting to conduct that did not occur and would open GMU to further legal risk," Gansler, a former Maryland attorney general, wrote in a letter obtained by The Washington Post...

Full story at https://www.washingtonpost.com/education/2025/08/25/george-mason-president-refuses-apology-dei/.

From Inside Higher Ed: *...Faculty at Ohio State University can no longer make land acknowledgments—verbal or written statements that recognize the Indigenous people who originally lived on the university's land—unless it is directly relevant to class subject matter. The new policy from the university's Office of University Compliance and Integrity is one of many created in response to Ohio's SB 1, a sweeping higher education law passed in March that seeks to eliminate DEI offices and scrub all mentions of diversity, equity and inclusion from university scholarships, job descriptions and more. The university has also limited student housing decorations in public spaces to "Ohio State spirit themes" and prohibited schools and departments from commenting on a wide array of topics, including the original inhabitants of the land on which the university is built.*

Land acknowledgments are "considered statements on behalf of an issue or cause" and cannot be made by someone representing a unit, college or department, according to the new policy. Such statements cannot be used at virtual or in-person university-sponsored events, or written on any university channel, website, social media, signage, meeting agenda or event program. The acknowledgments are also banned from syllabi and class materials and cannot be spoken aloud in the classroom unless they are directly tied to the course, such as in a class about the history of American Indigenous peoples...

Full story at https://www.insidehighered.com/news/faculty-issues/academic-freedom/2025/09/03/ohio-state-bans-land-acknowledgments.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:20 AM No comments:

Labels: diversity, George Mason U, Ohio State U, politics

The Big Squeeze

From the Bruin: *UCLA plans to consolidate campus human resources, finance, communications, marketing, event planning and academic personnel services to cut costs, according to internal documents acquired by the Daily Bruin. The documents laid out Goal 5 of UCLA's Strategic Plan, which aims to increase "institutional effectiveness and operational efficiency."*

The university announced part of the plan – including to consolidate campus information technology services – in an Aug. 20 email sent by two vice chancellors to faculty and staff. UCLA will further "streamline" services distributed across multiple campus units, they added in the email. The vice chancellors also said the university will pause new faculty hiring following the suspension of about 800 of UCLA's research grants...

Full story at https://dailybruin.com/2025/09/02/ucla-plans-to-consolidate-some-campus-services-to-cut-costs-increase-efficiency.

Posted by California Policy Issues at 3:10 AM No comments:

Labels: UC budget crisis, UCLA

Friday, September 5, 2025

The money-where-the-mouth-is problem

You probably saw the recent LA Times article concerning an exchange of letters between state legislative leaders - notably State Senator Wiener - and UC President Milliken concerning the current UC/UCLA conflict with the US Dept. of Justice and the feds more generally.*

The Wiener letter to Milliken seemed to urge no concessions to the feds. But it did not urge that there be no negotiations - which seems paradoxical.** (If you say there will be no concessions, what is left to negotiate about?) Excerpt:

"*Concessions by UCLA would establish a damaging precedent for extorting public schools in states with leadership that does not bow down to this President. We must resist Trump's extortion to protect public higher education, the economy, our students and California's values.*

As negotiations proceed, please continue to fight for the people of California and stand strong against the demands of the Trump administration. The only way to deal with a bully is to fight for what is right. The legislature of the State of California stands firmly behind you. If we can be of any assistance please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here for the UC and the people of California."

In response, Milliken wrote back to Wiener and the other legislators spelling out what the costs to UC/UCLA could potentially be:***

"The University of California receives over $17 billion per year from the federal government—$9.9 billion in Medicare and Medicaid funding, $5.7 billion in research funding, and $1.9 billion in student financial aid per year. A substantial loss of federal funding would devastate our university and cause enormous harm to our students, our patients, and all Californians... If the University loses the federal funding I mentioned earlier, we would need at least $4-5 billion per year to minimize the damage of that loss. That is what fighting for the people of California will take..."

The letter is a polite way of saying to the legislature (and the governor), put your money where your mouth is. So far, the Sen. Wiener et al have not written back offering the $4-5 billion/year specified by Milliken.

The Regents, it is rumored, have engaged some high-priced legal talent to guide them in the negotiations with the feds. Here is some free advice from a non-lawyer:

> 1) Find out quickly whether the feds are serious about talks leading to something. The $1 billion demand raises the question of whether they are serious or just want to keep the conflict going.
>
> 2) Regardless of the answer to #1, settle the remaining legal cases that arose out of the events of 2023-2024. Already, the Regents have reached a $6+ million settlement with some plaintiffs. But there are other cases pending. Whatever the cost to settle, it will be pennies compared to what the feds are asking. And having put the past behind, in any upcoming court conflict with the feds, UC/UCLA will be in a position to say that what occurred was under the old Gene Block regime, those issues have been settled, and now there is a new dawn with Julio Frenk.

Yes, if you follow the free advice of yours truly and settle with the remaining plaintiffs, there might be some "rising above principle" involved. But the legislature and the governor are well

acquainted with the concept of rising above principle. It's an occupational requirement. And they haven't rushed to offer the required $4-5 billion/year.

Yours truly stands ready to offer more free advice. Any time. Just ask. In fact, he might offer advice even if you don't ask.

===

*https://www.latimes.com/california/story/2025-09-04/uc-ucla-billions-at-risk-in-federal-funding-trump.

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**https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/26083259-letter-to-uc-leaders/.

August 31, 2025

-

Office of the Secretary and Chief of Staff to the Regents

1111 Franklin St.,12th floor

Oakland, CA 94607

-

President James B. Milliken

University of California

1111 Franklin Street

Oakland, CA 94607

-

Chancellor Julio Frenk

Box 951405, 2147 Murphy Hall

Los Angeles, CA 90095-1405

-

Dear UC Regents, UC President James B. Milliken, and UCLA Chancellor Julio Frenk:

We're writing to offer our strong support to you and the University of California (UC) as Donald Trump's Department of Justice (DOJ) demands $1.2 billion from UC. According to reports of a "draft settlement," the administration seeks to exert indefinite control over UCLA's admissions, curriculum, and regulation of student and campus life. We urge you not to back down in the face of this political shakedown and to stand by Californians and their values.

The UC system is not only one of the most prestigious academic institutions in the world, it is a vital economic driver. The UC employs over 200,000 people and indirectly supports over 500,000 jobs, contributing $82 billion annually. It is in this context that the Trump administration is seeking to freeze at least $584 million in research grants and demanding $1 billion in fines and a $172 million "claims fund."

This is an extortion attempt and a page out of the authoritarian playbook: control the universities. These actions are an attack on California and particularly offensive when perpetrated in the name of the Jewish community. While there have been real issues with antisemitism on campus, the UC and UCLA have worked hand in glove with the Jewish community and the California Legislative Jewish Caucus to address these issues in tangible ways. To take such extreme action against UC and scientific research in the name of Jews — an action a large majority of Jews do not support and find to be vile — harms Jews, makes Jews less safe, and undermines the hard work of fighting antisemitism.

The UC must not cower to bad-faith attempts to weaponize antisemitism, especially when they are so blatantly designed to be a wedge between Jews and other vulnerable communities. Free speech, academic freedom, scientific research, and democracy are values that have led to Jewish flourishing. These attacks on California, on our immigrant communities, on science, and on LGBTQ people stand in stark contrast to Jewish values. Acceding to these reprehensible demands won't stabilize the UC system; it will betray our values of protecting and celebrating our most vulnerable communities. Giving in will only encourage further unconstitutional behavior by this Administration.

Columbia University's concessions in March of 2025 did not satisfy Trump. Instead it led to increased demands, the freezing of additional funds, and more concessions. The Trump administration cannot be allowed to dictate campus policies in California or across this nation. At Brown University, a recent settlement prohibits the University from providing life-saving gender affirming care for minors and mandates discrimination against transgender people.

California is home to the highest number of undocumented students of any state. These students already face unprecedented attacks and would be further harmed by restrictive policies limiting their admission or participation on campuses. These risks are not unique, and while UCLA is currently in the Administration's crosshairs, other UC campuses, like Berkeley, are likely to face similar threats. An open DOJ investigation into UC's admission and hiring practices could lead to further extortion.

Concessions by UCLA would establish a damaging precedent for extorting public schools in states with leadership that does not bow down to this President. We must resist Trump's extortion to protect public higher education, the economy, our students and California's values. As negotiations proceed, please continue to fight for the people of California and stand strong against the demands of the Trump administration. The only way to deal with a bully is to fight for what is right. **The legislature of the State of California stands firmly behind you.** If we can

be of any assistance please do not hesitate to contact us. We are here for the UC and the people of California.

Respectfully,

Senator Scott Wiener

California Senate, District 11

Senator Benjamin Allen

California Senate, District 24

Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur

California Assembly, District 51

Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry

California Assembly, District 4

Assemblymember David Alvarez

California Assembly, District 80

Assemblymember Steve Bennett

California Assembly, District 38

Assemblymember Marc Berman

California Assembly, District 23

Senator Catherine Blakespear

California Senate, District 38

Assemblymember Isaac Bryan

California Assembly, District 55

Senator Anna Caballero

California Senate, District 14

Senator Sabrina Cervantes

California Senate, District 31

Assemblymember Sade Elhawary

California Assembly, District 57

Assemblymember Robert Garcia

California Assembly, District 50

Senator Lena Gonzalez

California Senate, District 33

Assemblymember Mark Gonzàlez

California Assembly, District 54

Assemblymember John Harabedian

California Assembly, District 41

Assemblymember Gregg Hart

California Assembly, District 37

Assemblymember Corey Jackson

California Assembly, District 60

Assemblymember Maggie Krell

California Assembly, District 6

Senator Caroline Menjivar

California Senate, District 20

Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi

California Assembly, District 66

Assemblymember Liz Ortega

California Assembly, District 20

Senator Steve Padilla

California Senate, District 18

Senator Sasha Renée Pérez

California Senate, District 25

Assemblymember Cottie Petrie-Norris

California Assembly, District 73

Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva

California Assembly, District 67

Assemblymember Celeste Rodriguez

California Assembly, District 43

Senator Susan Rubio

California Senate, District 22

Assemblymember Nick Schultz

California Assembly, District 44

Assemblymember Jose Luis Solache

California Assembly, District 62

Senator Henry Stern

California Senate, District 27

Senator Thomas Umberg

California Senate, District 34

Assemblymember Christopher Ward

California Assembly, District 78

Assemblymember Buffy Wicks

California Assembly, District 14

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***https://www.documentcloud.org/documents/26083258-uc-response-to-lawmakers/. The full letter:

September 3, 2025

The Honorable Scott D. Wiener

Chair, Joint Legislative Budget Committee

1020 N. Street, Room 553

Sacramento, California 94814

Dear Senator Wiener:

Thank you for your letter. We are deeply grateful for your commitment to the University of California—especially at this moment, as we face one of the gravest threats in UC's 157-year history. Recent actions by the federal government, with the distinct possibility of more to come, place the entire University of California system at risk, and by extension the many Californians and communities we serve.

As you point out, the UC system is not only one of the world's leading academic institutions, but also a key driver in California's economic success story that contributes to thriving communities throughout the state. We are the second largest employer in the state—nearly 275,000 people work at our campuses and medical centers—and we indirectly support over 500,000 jobs. We are present in every county in this state, providing health care, supporting farmers, and fostering innovation and entrepreneurship that leads to new inventions and companies. We are heartened that our state's leaders recognize what the University of California contributes to the state, the country, and the world.

Last week in Sacramento, I met with more than 30 legislators. I hope my message to all was clear: the stakes are high, and the risks are very real. The University of California receives over $17 billion per year from the federal government—$9.9 billion in Medicare and Medicaid funding, $5.7 billion in research funding, and $1.9 billion in student financial aid per year.

A substantial loss of federal funding would devastate our university and cause enormous harm to our students, our patients, and all Californians. Classes and student services would be reduced, patients would be turned away, tens of thousands of jobs would be lost, and we would see UC's world-renowned researchers leaving our state for other more seemingly stable opportunities in the US or abroad. It is hard to conceive of a more damaging consequence for our state.

The University faces an extraordinary challenge, and we will need the resolve and partnership of our state's leaders if we are to ensure that UC can continue to serve the people of California as it has for generations. We are extraordinarily grateful for the offer of assistance in your letter. If the University loses the federal funding I mentioned earlier, **we would need at least $4-5 billion per yea**r to minimize the damage of that loss. That is what fighting for the people of California will take, and I look forward to further discussions regarding how the State can support UC as we strive to protect the greatest public university in the world.

Sincerely,

James B. Milliken President

cc: Senator Benjamin Allen

Assemblymember Rick Chavez Zbur

Assemblymember Cecilia Aguiar-Curry

Assemblymember David Alvarez

Assemblymember Steve Bennett

Assemblymember Marc Berman

Senator Catherine Blakespear

Assemblymember Isaac Bryan

Senator Anna Caballero

Senator Sabrina Cervantes

Assemblymember Sade Elhawary

Assemblymember Robert Garcia

Senator Lena Gonzalez

Assemblymember Mark Gonzàlez

Assemblymember John Harabedian

Assemblymember Gregg Hart

Assemblymember Corey Jackson

Assemblymember Maggie Krell

Senator Caroline Menjivar

Assemblymember Al Muratsuchi

Assemblymember Liz Ortega

Senator Steve Padilla

Senator Sasha Renée Pérez

Assemblymember Cottie Petrie-Norris

Assemblymember Sharon Quirk-Silva

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